The Blurb

Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

61 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2010

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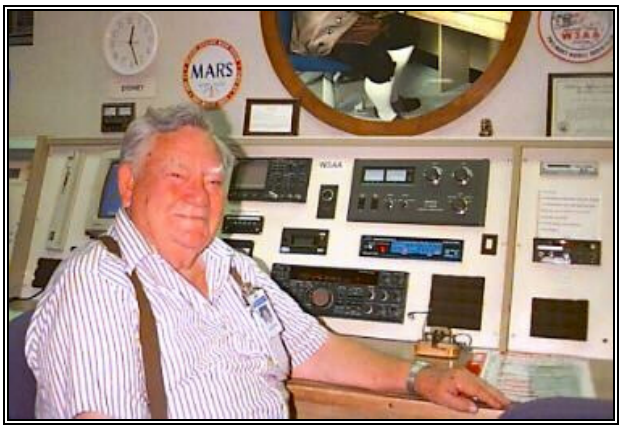

W3PWG became a Silent Key on the 1st day of the new year

A couple of small items about Rollie. I first met him when we were members of the Haverford Township Emergency Radio Net around 1950. Lawrence LePage, President of the Franklin Institute was also a member, as was Fred Shaw, W3ADV. It was a few years later that Lawrence talked Freddy into putting a ham station in the Franklin Institute, and several more years after that Rollie was employed as a guide at the Institute along with Mason Frankenfield, also an HTERN member.

Rollie surprised me one day in the RCA broadcast equipment factory test room when I went there for production follow-up on the industry's first all-solidstate broadcast tape recorder. That had to be about 1961/62. He was a production tester but got laid off after a short while in one of the Corporation's periodic up-and-down staffing policies. He returned after a few months and I'm not sure what he did in the interim, but he told me as a laid-off RCA employee he had a hard time finding a new job. Everywhere he went they told him they didn't like to hire ex-RCA employees because the Corporation paid very well and as soon as there was a re-call, the men and women would quit to go back to Camden! On his return several months later, however, I seem to remember he stayed for a long time, maybe until retirement, before he went to the FI.

Rollie was in the Navy long before the war started. He was on a ship in the Pacific when Amelia Earhart disappeared, but I don't remember the details of his ship's part -- if any -- in the search. He did say he heard some of the Navy's search-related communications. I attempted to contact him last summer for a fill-in on the details of his involvement for the recent article on A.E., but there was never any reply to messages left on the answering machine at the number listed on the club roster. Anyway, "Rollie was Jolly," always with a positive outlook; an unassuming man with a rich background of service throughout his life's rich experiences.

R.I.P. de Bob, W3NE

More about our remarkable "Senior-est" member... see page 4

The Blurb is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. ***Copying and quoting*** is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. ***Subscriptions*** are available to non-members for $12, addressed to the Treasurer.

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KB2ERL (10)
WU3I (11)
WA3KIO (12)
N3MT (10)
W3STW (11)
N3XKE (12)

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For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: WB3KOJ@comcast.net

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net** ..... at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net** ..... at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB
- **ARES** at 2100L on the W3QV repeater

Committees

Archives: NG3P	DX: N3MT	Program: Club VP	TVI: W3VVS
Audit: NS3K	Emerg.Coor: K3HWE	Public Service: KE3QB	VE Program: NS3K
Awards: open	Field Day: KE3QB	Refreshments: W3AOK	W3AA Trustee: WU3I
Blurb folding: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH	Internet: K3XS	Repeater: W3AOK	Welcome: N3UBY
Directory:WB3KOJ	Membership: N3XKE	Skywarn: WX3PHI	Youth: N3MT
	Net Control: KB3IV	Sunshine: N3GLU	
	Publicity: W3RM		

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital,** 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**
Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations **W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System**
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA ***Trustee:*** **W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through WU3I-L
W3EM: Field Day/special event station *Trustee:* W3VVS

The Officers

Pres: **KB3IV Ed Masarsky** 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net
Vice Pres: **N3QV Eric D. Marano,** PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net
Sec: **KB3MIV Jen Miller** 9427 Kirkwood Rd. 1st Fl. Phila 19114jencaz@verizon.net
Treas: **W3RM Richard A. Moll** roger.mike@verizon.net
Asst. Treas: **N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli** michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez…

I almost forgot it's my turn to be writing this column. It is my pleasure and honor to step back into the oval office and serve as President again. Ham Radio and Phil-Mont has blessed me with many new friends. We just completed our 60th year and I am looking forward to seeing more of our members at coming meetings and events sponsored by our club.

The January meeting was our annual Auction Fest and it was a big success. We had some great items for sale and there were many happy buyers and sellers by the end of the night. Yours truly was the auctioneer and I managed to still have a voice left by the end of the evening. Many thanks to those who donated items to Phil-Mont for sale with the proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund. If you weren't able to attend you can still support the fund by including a tax-deductible donation when paying your yearly dues.

The officers and directors of our club want to hear from you so we can provide meetings and events that are interesting and informative. Do you have a problem with anything related to our hobby? Our club has problem solvers waiting for your questions. They have the answers and are also available for hands-on help. All you have to do is ask.

Looking forward to seeing you at the February meeting and hearing you on the repeater and nets on Sunday morning.

73.

de Ed, KB3IV

ARRL VEC

The next VE session is on Thursday, February 25th at 7 pm.

Many thanks to our VE team!

DUES & DIRECTORY UPDATE

DUES ARE **DUE** ... FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PAID, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY INFORMATION. W3RM AWAITS YOUR MONEY!

Membership Stats

Will resume in April

February Birthdays

01 Charlotte Feierman (XYL K3EUI)
03 Barry Feierman - K3EUI
04 Eunice Bohlander (XYL W3VVS)
John Geliebter – NJ3G*
05 Mike Concordia - WB3KAC

But wait, there's more ... turn the page!

The rest of the February birthdays ...

10 Sharon Masarsky - N3GLU
12 Paul Eberwine – KB3SYX*

17 Sam Smith - K3GBA
18 Bill Mannino - WA3NSP
Mim Roeshman (XYL W3LKI)

23 Gene DiNardi - N3XKE
Steve Victor – WA2DTW
24 Carmen DeCicco - KE3QB
Larry Pollack - N3VLC*

**New member-2009*

From the Secretary ...

PMRC BoD Meeting Minutes, 1/6/2010

. Ed, KB3IV, opened the meeting at 2010 hours, appropriately for the New Year! Attending the meeting were Bill, W3AOK; Bob, KB2ERL; Steve, WU3I; Eric, N3QV; Dick, W3RM; Gene, N3XKE; Fred, WA3KIO; Ed, KB3IV; Al, W3STW; and Jen KB3MIV.

KB3IV, WU3I, and N3XKE spoke about Rollie, W3PWG and his life, as you will read in this issue of The Blurb.

W3RM, Treasurer, reported on November and December's finances. All in attendance congratulated W3STW on the location, Ann's Choice, of the 60th Anniversary Luncheon.

W3RM referred to the scholarship fund. The club has committed to one scholarship this year. Paul Hoops, W3EGL, 2009 Haring Scholarship winner, wrote a very nice letter about his many amazing accomplishments.

N3XKE stated there no new members.

KB3IV reported on the status of the auditorium for the general meetings.

W3AOK described the status of the repeater. Repairs need to be arranged. We are still trying to locate an off-site receiver location.

KB3IV gave details on the Net Control. New formats for 2010 have been sent to all Net Controllers.

N3QV informed us the website has been updated with only a few link glitches that need to be worked out.

KB3IV talked about a few exciting events coming up such as the Auction Fest and Field Day! He also mentioned there are some interesting programs in the New Year. Please contact KB3IV or any Board Members if you have an idea for a program.

PMRC General Meeting Minutes, 1/13/2010

Ed, KB3IV, Club President, called the first meeting of the New Year to order at 1945 hours. KB3IV thanked Steve, WU3I, for the past year as Club President. He also congratulated the other officers for 2010.

W3RM spoke about the recent earthquake disaster in Haiti and read the ARRL Bulletin listing several frequencies to listen in on emergency services being conducted.

KB3IV called last chance to buy raffle tickets from Sol, N3UBI.

WU3I reviewed the Auction Fest Rules. KB3IV covered a few more before beginning at 2000 hours.

After a few exciting bidding wars and a lot of nice door prizes being won, yes I won a few, the Auction ended at 2225 hours.

de Jen, KB3MIV

More about W3PWG - this article appeared last Summer ...

From: *News Of Delaware County*

Saluting Our Veterans - *Rolland Madara*

Wednesday, June 10, 2009
By Amy A. Winnemore; Life Editor

Rolland "Rollie" E. Madara has traveled the world, was part of the search party for Amelia Earhart's missing plane, fought off kamikazes in the South Pacific during World War II and has shared his enthusiasm for amateur radio with thousands around the world.For relaxation and fun these days, the spry Madara drives his electric scooter around the streets of Lansdowne. You wouldn't expect a 97-year-old man to be on a scooter motoring about his adopted hometown of 55 years, but, then, again, that

fits into a story and "storied life" which includes assisting the Brazilian Navy and attending engineering school.

Despite all the hard work, or maybe because of it, the impressive Madara stays soft-spoken.

Born Aug. 5, 1910 in Alvin, Texas, 25-miles southeast of Houston, Madara decided to join the Navy on Dec. 6, 1929, six months after graduating high school.

Assigned to Company D2 at the United States Naval Training Station in San Diego, Madara attended electrical school before he was sent to serve on the USS Argonne. Aboard until the spring of 1933, Madara was transferred to the USS Raleigh CL7 and sailed for the east coast. Relocated to the USS Jacob Jones DD130 in Norfolk in December 1933, Madara was part of the pre-commissioning crew of the USS Ranger CV4 being built in Newport News, Va.

"I was made second class electrician mate the day we sailed for South America on shakedown," says Madara, of Lansdowne.

Aboard the Ranger, Madara sailed to the west coast and onto Hawaii, before returning to San Diego, where he was sent to the IC School at the Naval Research Labs in Maryland and later to Gyro Compass School in Brooklyn.

While stationed at the Puget Sound Navy Yard, Madara was assigned to another destroyer, the USS Cushing DD376. During that time, the world's most famous female aviator of the time, Amelia Earhart, disappeared in July 1937 while flying over the South Pacific.

"After commissioning, we were plane guard for the Lexington on the Amelia Earhart search," he says.

In 1939, Madara shipped out to Brooklyn to the Sound Motion Picture Operators School and then to the Philadelphia Navy Yard to put the cruiser Wichita in commission. While in Philadelphia, he met Anna Scully, a student nurse. The couple married on Nov. 4, 1939 at Lady of Rosary Church in West Philadelphia. She passed away in 1996.

In 1941, Madara was aboard the Wichita on a convoy run in Iceland when he received an urgent message.

"It asked if I would accept duty with the US Naval Mission to Brazil and said that my wife and daughter could accompany me," he says.

"I said yes right back, having been in Brazil a number of times on the Ranger and the Wichita," he says.

Two days later, Madara was onto Washington, D.C. and the Berlitz School of Languages. While there, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and America was thrust in World War II.

Because of the war, his family was not allowed to go with him to Rio de Janeiro. For the next three years, Madara helped the Brazilian Navy build three destroyers, testing and training the crews while his family stayed behind in Philadelphia.

Madara returned stateside in June 1944, where he had gone from chief to warrant to ensign. He was a lieutenant upon arriving in Miami. After attending several engineering schools in Philadelphia and Norfolk, Madara was assigned to the USS Massey DD 778, being built in Bremerton, Wash.

"So I bought a car and took the family with me to San Francisco where the crew was being assembled," he says. "Then we went to Seattle where the ship went in commission, and I was assistant engineer and electrical officer and also worked in communications."

After sailing for San Diego to join the fleet, Madara's wife and daughter came down from Seattle where the young family bought a small house.

Gearing up for combat, Madara sailed off to Hawaii, Ulithi, the Philippines and onto Okinawa, "where we were on kamikaze station most of the time. We knocked down 19 planes and sustained very little damage to ourselves, but we lost a lot of our ships there, too," he recalls.

After the Japanese surrendered in August 1945, Madara left for a number of ports before returning to San Diego the day before Christmas Eve.

"I took a month leave to be with my wife and daughter and new daughter, who was born while I was off in Okinawa," he remembers.

After 17 years of active duty, Madara applied for shore duty. Instead, he was sent to Guam and Japan, then to Hong Kong. While in Japan, he found orders to report to the interior communication school in Washington for three years of shore duty as an instructor.

"I sold the San Diego house and headed the family to Washington. We spent three enjoyable years there and gained another daughter and two sons."

In 1950, Madara transferred to the Navy Fleet Reserve and relocated to his hometown of Alvin, Texas.

After 10 months, he was recalled to active duty and assigned as an electrical school instructor at the Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois. In June 1953, the family bought a home in Lansdowne (where he still lives today) to be near his wife's parents.

After the Navy, Madara worked at RCA in Camden for three years, before retiring after 15 years at General Electric in Southwest Philadelphia.

But retirement didn't slow him down. Madara shared his avid knowledge of amateur radio with thousands of others. For 30 years, he conducted the man-made lighting shows and operated the amateur radio station at the Franklin Institute until 2002.

"I'm the oldest member of the Navy Amateur Radio Club, which meets daily on the 40-meter amateur band."

A room in Madara's home is dedicated to his extensive collection of radio equipment. He has communicated with people all around the world for decades. Knowledgeable in several languages, Madara says probably 90 percent of those on the radio speak English. He was awarded the "Grand Ole Ham" lifetime service award in 1998 by the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club.

A member of Navy MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) for over 40 years, Madara is extremely impressive with his familiarity of new technology. His amateur call number, W3PWG, also serves as his e-mail address. If that's not enough, he's regularly on the Internet researching his genealogy.

"I researched my ancestors back to 1425 in Switzerland. The first one came to Philadelphia in 1739, and in 1749 three more families came over," he says.

In addition to amateur radio and his family history research, Madera has eight children, 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. They help him stay busier yet.

And this from 1998 ...

Rolland Madara, W3PWG

The "Grand Ole Ham" lifetime service award winner for 1998.

Known as "Rollie" to his many friends in the Amateur family, he has been licensed for 47 years and has also been a member of Navy MARS for 36 years and Army MARS for 41 years. For more than 25 years, he was an operator at the Franklin Institute Science Museum's Amateur Radio exhibit W3TKQ (now W3AA). Although he has turned over trusteeship of the station callsign to a younger ham, Rollie still volunteers one day each week at the Museum.

Now in his late 80s, Rollie served 24 years in the U.S. Navy, followed by employment with RCA and GE until his retirement in 1972. Since then he has been an active ambassador for Amateur Radio through W3TKQ / W3AA to the thousands of museum visitors of all ages. Another interest in his life is genealogy, and he has traced his lineage through many generations. The Amateur Radio

community is indeed fortunate to have a gentleman like Rolland Madara W3PWG on our family tree!

Kay Craigie, WT3P, ARRL Atlantic Division Director.

Reader feedback …

Hi Rick: I just wanted to send a note of appreciation for your work on the Blurb in general, and Bob Thomas's articles in particular. The January article on ham radio catalogs pinned the needle on the nostalgia meter, especially the "young hams…(who) could never afford…equipment on meager income from a paper route." This was the situation of so many of us in those years, certainly including me!

Catalogs in the mail, especially Heathkit, were, frankly, looked forward to more than QST or even Pop'Tronics. Being underage (14, I think), I remember asking my mother to sign the Heathkit credit application with the understanding that I would be responsible for the payments. I then made many trips to the post office (on my way to my paper route) to get monthly money orders so there would be one more paid "stub" in the Heathkit payment booklet!

Please pass kudos along to Bob for these excellent articles (I don't have his e-mail address…I took a stab at arrl.net). He is indeed a fine wordsmith, and his love of the subject matter shines through.

Jim Perry, KJ3P

Thanks for writing Jim, I sent your comments to Bob. He really is a gifted writer and a great contributor to the Blurb each month. As for me, I enjoy putting it all together each month but am only the tip of the iceberg. It still has to be proofed, printed, folded, addressed and mailed. Many thanks to my support staff for their invaluable assistance. (I'm thinking of getting them a new coffee pot for the Blurb offices.)

-ed

Radio Stores … 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

THE RADIO PROXIMITY FUSE

Second best-kept secret of WW-II

In the fall of 1944, Japanese armed forces were decimated. U.S. Marines were winning viscous battles along the island chain leading to an invasion of Japan itself. In a desperate attempt to deploy their limited remaining resources, the Japanese resorted to attacks on our Pacific Fleet with waves of suicide bombers, known as *Kamikaze.* These planes, loaded with explosives, were crashed directly into our ships, causing thousands of casualties and loss of ships, sometimes from a single strategically-aimed or lucky enemy aircraft. Conventional anti-aircraft defense had only limited effect against the devastating low flying, or diving *Kamikaze*. Something had to be done!

Anti-aircraft fire is not necessarily intended to score a direct hit, a highly unlikely possibility considering the size and speed of airplanes. Rather, it creates an expanding cloud of shrapnel, high velocity metal fragments, that spray out *near* the target to inflict damage. This is accomplish in ordinary anti-aircraft ordnance by an onboard altimeter or mechanical timer that is preset just before firing to activate the shell's detonating fuse within the field of enemy aircraft. With *Kamikaze* coming in fast and furious, that was mean feat! Fortunately, a lengthy development program culminated just in time to respond to this new threat with a device to automatically detonate the shell at optimum distance from the target. The new invention was designated VT (Variable Time) Fuse, popularly known as the "Radio Proximity Fuse."

The same British group that had invented the magnetron had begun working on the VT Fuse concept, but it was decided in 1940 to transfer further development to the U.S. National Defense Research Committee. The most viable approach was soon determined to be a miniature radar system housed in the nose cone of the projectiles. The system depended on subminiature vacuum tubes (it would be more than two decades before suitable semiconductors would be developed). However, there were serious reservations among scientists whether a tube could be made to withstand the

tremendous effects of acceleration as the shell was fired. Tubes would be subjected to 20,000 G as the shell accelerates to required muzzle velocity, plus an additional 5,000 G from rotational acceleration while spinning at 250 rps due to the barrel's rifling!

Fortunately for the Allies, the prospect of making a tube that could withstand such treatment appeared so daunting to the Germans, they did not pursue VT fuse development. Not so in the U.S.! Tests immediately began with Raytheon hearing aid subminiature tubes. They were embedded in carrier blocks and dropped on concrete or armor plate, examined and then modified for improved ruggedness. More sophisticated tubes were fired from a home-made vertical gun. Final versions were used in RF oscillators mounted in projectile nose cones shot from 37 mm guns while RF output stability was monitored. Three ruggedized tube types emerged from the development program: a triode, a pentode and a thyratron – a gas-filled tube analogue of an SCR. Other key components were developed while tube designs continued to be perfected, and by February 1942 a pilot production line started making VT Fuses for 5-inch anti-aircraft guns.

A wet-type battery with a built-in safety feature was designed by National Carbon Co. It had a cylindrical shape with a thin glass ampule filled with electrolyte in the center. The battery was normally dead without electrolyte, so the VT Fuse was disabled. Centrifugal force broke the glass ampule when the shell was spun by the gun's rifling during firing, diffusing electrolyte through the battery to arm the fuse by the time the shell exited the barrel. Other safety features prevented premature activation of the fuse in case the shell was accidentally dropped on the deck, and until the shell was out of the barrel and a safe distance away from the ship. Initial cost of a fuse was $732, but by 1945 it had declined to $17. Over 22 million Proximity Fuses were produced by the end of the war.

The VT Fuse employed a triode regenerative detector circuit exactly like the receivers used by amateurs and BCLs in the 1920s. It was coupled to an antenna in the tip of the nose cone, the body of the shell providing a ground plane. Regen receivers oscillate in one of their operating modes, radiating RF from the antenna. [That caused bedlam on ham bands and in neighborhoods when hundreds of radio fans were tuning around in the evening.] The regenerative circuit in a VT Fuse operated simultaneously as a transmitter and receiver, *sending* RF out as a transmitter, and *receiving* RF reflected from the target as the shell approached. The frequency of reflected RF was shifted up, due to Doppler effect, relative to RF radiated from the fuse. At a closing speed of 500 mph and radiated frequency of 160 MHz, the shift was about 240 Hz, appearing as an audio beat in the output of the regen circuit. Amplitude of the beat increased as the shell approached its target, and when it reached a preset value corresponding to a distance of about thirty feet, a thyratron was triggered to initiate detonation of the shell. *Sayonara, Kamikaze!*

The Proximity Fuse was a rousing success in the Pacific Theatre. It scored three times as many hits as conventional defenses in its first year of deployment. Military leaders considered it of such importance that using over land was forbidden to avoid any possibility a dud might be captured and used to develop counter measures. That policy was abandoned when the Nazi's V1 pulse-jet "Buzz Bomb" was used against civilian population centers in England, so any duds would fall back on friendly ground. Conventional countermeasures were ineffective against the V1, but after introduction of the VT Fuse, only four of 104 Buzz Bombs reached their targets.

In mid-December 1946, the Germans launched a surprise major counter offense and several secondary counter attacks in Western Europe, known collectively as "The Battle of the Bulge." Fighting became so intense there was no alternative to equipping bombs and Howitzer shells with Proximity Fuses. The effect was immediate and decisive. Bombs and shells exploded thirty feet above the ground, spraying shrapnel in a downward cone. German soldiers were totally exposed in fox holes or behind natural barriers that would have formerly provided protection. So fearsome was the effect generated by the Proximity Fuse, that whole squads of German soldiers deserted or refused to go into the field and fight.

A superbly organized cooperative effort among scientists, commercial manufacturers, and military forces produced a product of elegant simplicity. There is no doubt that protection of civilians and support of our troops with ordnance equipped with the VT Fuse was a major factor in victory in the Pacific and Europe. The importance of the Proximity Fuse, and the secrecy with which it was brought to fruition, was exceeded only by the Atomic Bomb.

... the second epistle of Paul to the Members

Our 2009 Haring Scholarship recipient sent us the following letter over the holidays, reporting on his first semester as a freshman at the Rochester Institute of Technology. (Wonder when he sleeps?)

de W3RM

Dear Phil-Mont Radio Club Members,
The first trimester at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) has come to a close. With final examinations nothing more than a fading memory, I would like to update you on how my time at RIT has gone.

The orientation process was great. With the exception of a brief appearance of the blue screen of death on my laptop, and a slightly longer disappearance of the laptop to the computer technicians at RESNET, everything went fine. Having a fair amount of experience with maps and orienteering from the Boy Scouts, I was quickly able to learn my way around the campus. A job fair was held, and I learned about two jobs of interest, one working with Tech Crew (RIT's lighting and sound experts), and a second with Facilities Management Services (FMS), working as an electrician helper. At the club fair, I met with members of K2GXT and had a picture taken with Ritchie the Tiger, our mascot. That picture is on page 13 of the November QST.

The first week of school was the hardest. The friends I had made during orientation didn't share any classes with me, and I had to make an entirely new group of friends. While I had learned how to get around from building to building easily, remembering how to find the rooms I wanted was an entirely different story. I left my keys in my dorm (the only time I've made that mistake) and got locked out of the buildings on the first day of classes. However, many good things happened that week. My chemistry professor extended a deadline for an online assignment that I had forgotten to complete. I took the job with FMS, paying twenty-five cents an hour above the typical pay for students. My job primarily deals with burned-out lights, but will occasionally hit on things such as dysfunctional handicap buttons for doors, tripped circuit breakers, and clocks that failed to auto-reset for daylight savings. My hours are incredibly flexible; my boss has made it clear that I can take off any amount of time I need if my course load gets too heavy. I also began my experiences with several clubs that I greatly enjoy now: RIT Improv, RIT Players (a theatrical group), K2GXT, and RIT MetalWorks.

K2GXT, s sister club with the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, is a very active group. Within the first eleven weeks, I have already involved myself in contesting, event coordination on a hundred mile bike race, working on setting up a net on Echolink, and getting the club official ARRL affiliation.

The trimester is over now, and things are going about as well as they can. I have a GPA of 3.78 on the 4-point scale. I got into all the courses I wanted for the winter trimester. During week 7, I will be in a production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing. " As far as the Honors Program goes, I'm on track with the GPA requirement and have fulfilled my complementary learning requirement by aiding with event coordination on the two-meter band on two separate occasions. My GPA also puts me in the contention to enter the Bachelors/Masters program at the end of my second year.

I would like to thank you once again for making the past eleven weeks possible, and am grateful that you will be aiding me in the next two trimesters to come.

(Signed) Paul Hoops, W3EGL, 73

February at PMRC…

2nd	**Groundhog Day** *Come on Spring!*
3rd	**Wed - Board of Directors meeting**
7th	**Sunday – K3XS** *NCS*
10th	**Wed - General Membership Meeting**
14th	**Sunday – WB3KOJ** *NCS*
	Valentine's Day *Stay out of the dog house!*
15th	**President's Day**
17th	**Ash Wednesday**
21st	**Sunday - KB3IV** *NCS*
25th	**Thurs – VE test session**
28th	**Sunday - KB3SJS** *NCS*

And don't forget the **ARES** net every Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater.

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For Sale:

Double Braided Dacron Rope now in stock. 3/16 diameter. Black in color. Will cut to requested length. High stretch resistance. Excellent strength: and abrasion resistance Also excellent resistance to acid, sunlight, mildew and chemicals.
Shock load: Excellent. Does not float. Seal ends with heat. Breaking strength 630 Pounds. $0.14 per foot

And …

Rohn 6 40 foot tower with rotor shelf and fold over base. $150.00
Mosley TA-33 $150.00
Cushcraft A-3 $150.00 (1 available)

Contact Steve, WU3I, for these items.

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member.

First Class Mail

The Blurb
The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115